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AUTHOR Berube, Maurice R.
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ABSTRACT

Seven chapters analyze the role of unions in teacher politics. Chapter 1 traces the political power of teachers and their unions. Chapters 2 and 3 focus on the power, policies, and politics of the National Education Association (NEA) and the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Chapter 4 presents case studies to assess teacher power at the local, state, and federal levels. Chapter 5 compares and contrasts crucial issues pertinent to both unions regarding education, race, social matters, and foreign policy. The issues serve to focus on the differing organizational styles and the political means to accomplish differing objectives. The role of unions in the present school reform movement is examined in chapter 6. Chapter 7 discusses teacher union prospects for the future. (JAM)

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